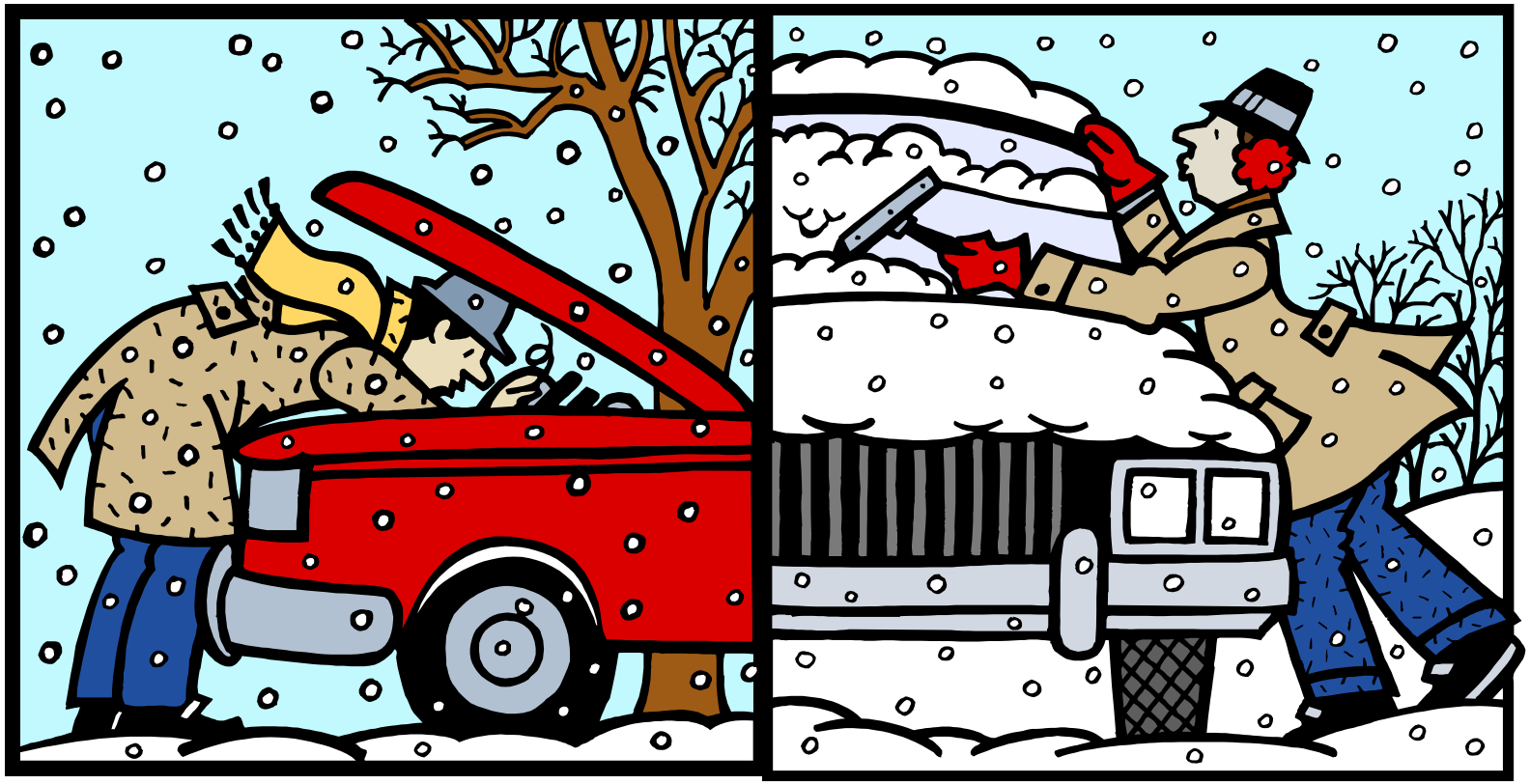
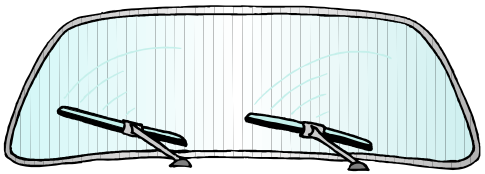
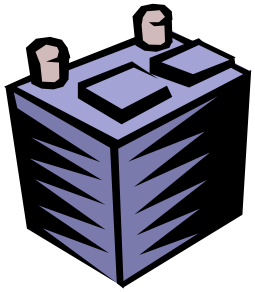
WINTER DRIVING "PREPARE FOR SEVERE WEATHER!"



PREPARE FOR WINTER WEATHER

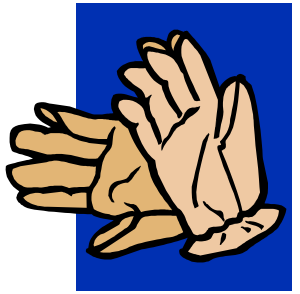




- ***Wipers*** **- Good working order**
- ***Windshield Washer Fluid*** **- Fill Up**
- ***Anti-freeze*** **- 50% water 50% Coolant**
- ***Battery & Belts*** **- Check condition**
- ***Oil*** **- Replace your oil with Winter grade oil**
- ***Tires*** **- Check treads, pressure and owners manual recommendations**

BEFORE TRIPS: PACK WINTER CAR KIT

- SNOW BRUSH W/ SCRAPER
- FLASHLIGHT W/ BATTERIES
- BLANKET
- MITTENS, SOCKS & HAT
- SMALL SHOVEL
- SACK OF SAND OR KITTY LITTER
- JUMPER CABLES
- HAZARD SIGN, FLARES OR FLAG
- WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID



WARM-UP AND CLEAN-OFF

1. IDLE ENGINE - DO NOT RACE ENGINE!

2. CLEAN OFF VEHICLE COMPLETELY!

- CLEAN ALL LIGHTS
- SCRAPE ALL WINDOWS AND MIRRORS
- SWEEP ALL THE SNOW OFF THE VEHICLE

Good all around visibility is important!!!!!

remember, BEING IN A HURRY WILL RESULT IN ACCIDENTS DOWN THE ROAD!

RISK MANAGEMENT DRIVING DECISIONS

- Is my car equipped for the weather?
- Can I make this trip later?
- What would be the safest route?
- Am I prepared for emergencies?

DECEMBER 23, 1998: SERVICE MEMBER DEPARTED FORT HOOD DURING A WINTER WEATHER WARNING. FALLING SNOW MIXED WITH SLEET. ROADS PREDICTED TO HAVE SEVERE ICING. WHILE PASSING AN EIGHTEEN WHEELER ON I-35, SERVICE MEMBER LOST CONTROL OF HIS VEHICLE AND STRUCK A BRIDGE GUARDRAIL, THEN VEERED INTO THE PATH OF THE EIGHTEEN WHEELER. THE SOLDIER WAS KILLED.

POOR RISK MANAGEMENT

OR

BAD JUDGEMENT?

DRIVING TECHNIQUES

Drive at reduced speeds so you can stop quicker.

- **Give turn signals sooner than usual. This gives other drivers more time to react.**

- **Pump your brakes to warn of your intention to stop.**

- **Maintain at least triple the normal distance from the vehicle ahead. (6 seconds)**

DANGEROUS BECAUSE YOU CAN'T SEE IT!

COMMON AREAS YOU FIND IT:

1. Bridges/Overpasses/Underpasses
2. Shaded areas.

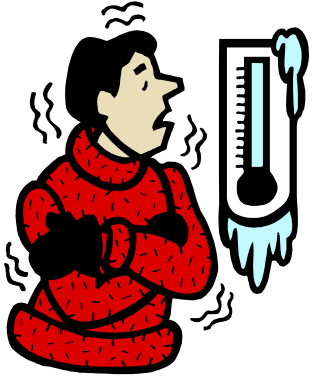
BLACK ICE

REACTION

DO NOT PANIC!

- **MAKE NO SUDDEN CHANGES IN SPEED OR DIRECTION**
- **EASE OFF ACCELERATOR**
- **STEER IN DIRECTION THAT THE REAR OF THE VEHICLE IS SKIDDING**

FRESH SNOW CAN CONCEAL ICY ROADS



SKIDS

Result from unexpected forces:

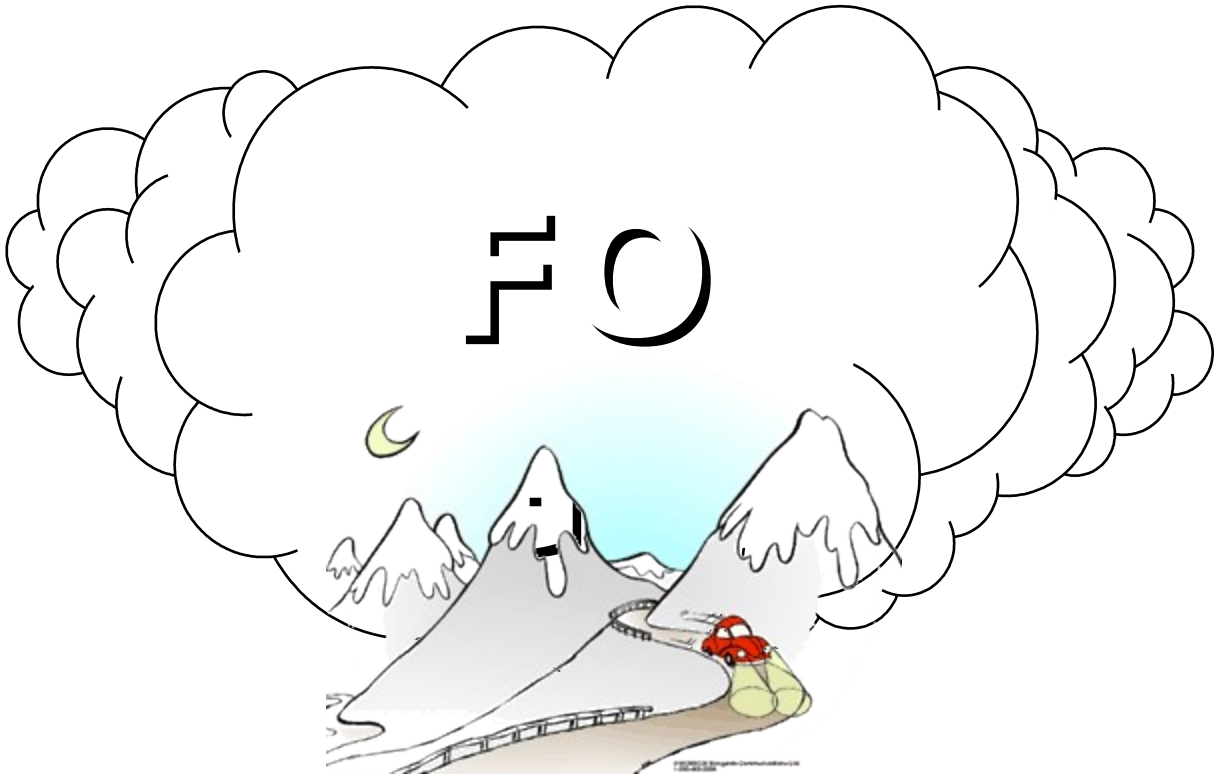
1. **Black Ice**
2. **Driving to fast for conditions**
3. **Sudden steering corrections or braking**
4. **Sudden accelerations**

SKIDS (CONTINUED)

If your vehicle begins to skid, take the following actions:

1. Front end skids - Release the brake and let the front wheels roll freely to regain traction and steering control.

2. Rear end skids - Take foot off of accelerator and turn wheels in the direction that the rear of the vehicle is skidding, and pump brakes lightly.



WHEN DRIVING IN FOG,
USE LOW-BEAM HEADLIGHTS,

or

STOP, GET OFF THE ROADWAY, AND WAIT!!

!!! DANGER !!!

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

Each year 1,500 people are killed in the U.S. by carbon monoxide, approximately 900 of whom die in their homes. More than 10,000 are exposed to levels so dangerous that medical attention is required.

CARBON MONOXIDE

Attributes/Effects

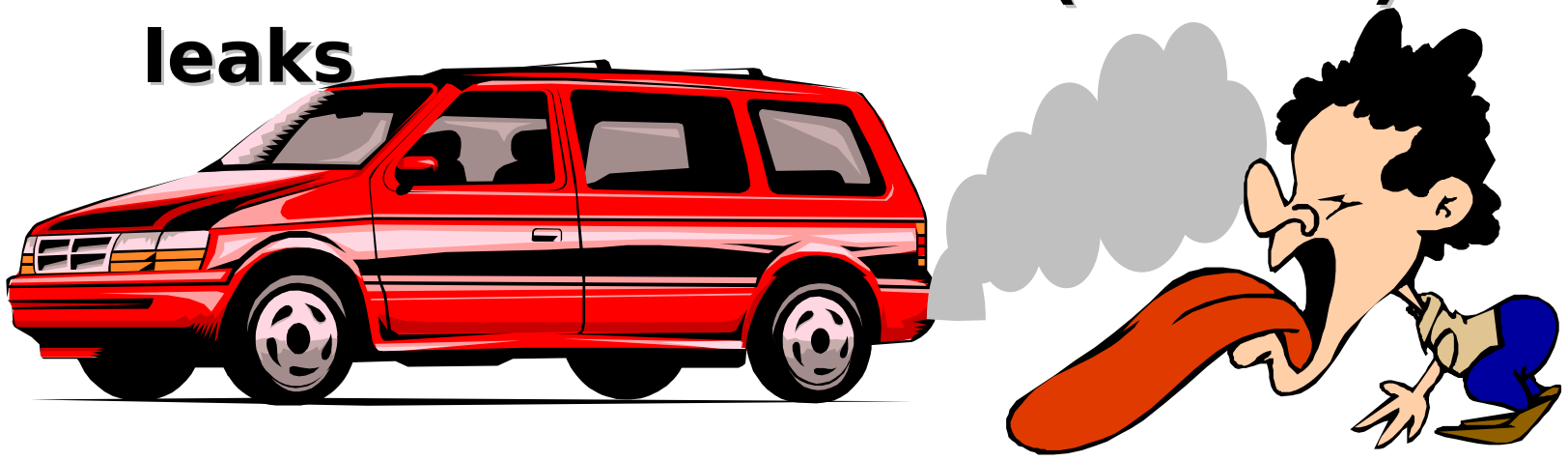
1. Odorless & Colorless
2. Nausea, Headache, Dizziness
3. Causes Drowsiness
4. CAN BE FATAL

CARBON MONOXIDE

Prevention

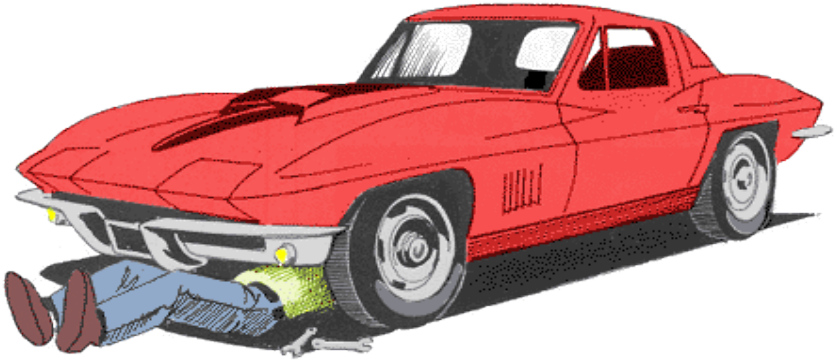
1. Never run engine in an enclosed area

2. Check exhaust (muffler) for leaks



BEFORE TRIPS: CHECK

- BATTERY
- ANTIFREEZE
- WIPERS & FLUID
- IGNITION SYSTEM
- THERMOSTAT
- LIGHTS



- HAZARD LIGHTS
- EXHAUST SYSTEM
- HEATER
- BRAKES
- DEFROSTER
- OIL LEVEL

Brake System

To make an emergency stop on a slippery road…

Regular Brakes

Pump the Brake Pedal

Anti-lock Brakes (ABS)

Press down and hold.

The ABS will pump for you.

Drive System

Rear Wheel Drive Pushes

and

Front Wheel Drive Pulls

The systems may feel a little different, but always steer in the direction of the skid, and make gentle corrections to regain control.

KEY DRIVING TIPS

- ALLOW MORE TIME TO TRAVEL
- MAINTAIN MORE SPACE
- DRIVE WITH YOUR LIGHTS ON
- WEAR SAFETY BELTS
- LOOK WELL AHEAD
- ANTICIPATE PROBLEMS

STUCK IN SNOW

- CLEAR A PATH
- STRAIGHTEN FRONT WHEELS
- USE ABRASIVE MATERIALS UNDER WHEELS
- GENTLE PRESSURE ON ACCELERATOR
- DON'T SPIN WHEELS
- "ROCKING THE VEHICLE" – CHECK OWNER'S MANUAL
- LAST RESORT …

SUMMARY

- REMEMBER THE THREE P's
  - PREPARE FOR THE TRIP
  - PROTECT YOURSELF
  - PREVENT CRASHES ON THE ROAD
    - SLOW DOWN!
    - GIVE DISTANCE
- CLEAN OFF WINDOWS - **SEE**

CLEAN OFF *ALL* LIGHT AND TURN

LIGHTS ON - **BE SEEN**

DRIVE TO ARRIVE ALIVE !